

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OPR-02 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 SCS-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 USSS-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 SY-10 DRC-01 SCA-01 OC-06 EUR-25 EB-11

COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AF-10 /178 W

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O R 201232Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7942

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

S E C R E T KUWAIT 3821

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR

SUBJECT: E&E PLANNING

REF: KUWAIT 3810

SUMMARY: ABU DHABI REPORTS SITUATION CONTINUES CALM, BUT COULD DETERIORATE IF BATTLE SHOULD TURN AGAINST ARAB STATES. RECOMMENDS GULF NET BE MADE OPERATIONAL SOONEST AND THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR CARRYING OUT US/BRITISH E&E PLANS IN LOWER GULF BE COORDINATED WITH BRITISH. END SUMMARY.

1. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM ABU DHABI:

2. SITUATION REMAINS OUTWARDLY CALM HERE AND WE HAVE RECEIVED NO REPORTS OF OVERT HOSTILITY OR INCIDENTS DIRECTED AGAINST AMERICAN CITIZENS OR INTERESTS. BUT THERE HAS BEEN DISCERNIBLE CHANGE IN OFFICIAL MOOD HERE FOLLOWING SHAIKH ZAYID'S ACTION TO IMPLEMENT THE KUWAIT OAPEC DECISION BY REDUCING OIL PRODUCTION FIVE PERCENT AND EMBARGOING ALL PETROLEUM EXPORTS TO US. THIS REFLECTED IN SHARP DROP OFF IN NUMBER OF BUSINESS AND CONSULAR VISITORS TO EMB.

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3. AMERICAN COMMUNITY SEEMS TO BE TAKING SITUATION IN STRIDE, AND ONLY FEW ISOLATED CASES OF OVER-REACTION REPORTED. INCREASED ANTI-AMERICANISM, REFLECTED IN MEDIA, AND TO CERTAIN EXTENT SOCIALLY, APPLIES MAINLY TO ABU DHABI.

4. EMB CONTINUES TO BE CONFIDENT IT CAN RIDE OUT STORM WITHOUT INSTITUTING EVACUATION. EXCEPTION TO THAT PREDICATION, IN OUR VIEW, WOULD BE STATE OF MIND CREATED IF TIDE OF BATTLE SHOULD SUDDENLY BEGIN

TURNING DECISIVELY AGAINST THE ARAB STATES, NOTABLY EGYPT. SHOULD THAT HAPPEN, WE BELIEVE ANTI-AMERICAN FEELING WOULD SURFACE QUICKLY HERE (POSSIBLY LESS SO IN DUBAI) LIKELY NECESSITATING SOME FORM OF EVAC.

5. IN EFFORT TO PREPARE FOR ANY E&E EVENTUALITY, WE WISH MAKE FOLLOWING ACTION RECOMMENDATIONS: A. IT IMPERATIVE IN OUR VIEW, THAT GULF NET COMMO SYSTEM BE MADE OPERATIONAL SOONEST. UNDERSTAND NET HAS NOT HAD FLAWLESS TEST.

B. ENB IS AWAITING ANSWER THROUGH BRITISH EMB TO QUERY SENT TO LONDON RE HMG'S INTERPRETATION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF JOINT US/UK EVAC AGREEMENT IN SITUATION WHERE US CITIZENS CONCEIVABLY WOULD BE FORCED EVACUATE, BUT BRITS WOULD NOT. SINCE THIS JOINT AGREEMENT IN PRESENT FORM HAS NEVER BEEN OPERATIONALLY TESTED, BELIEVE IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR WLG OR EMB LONDON OFFICER TO DISCUSS MODALITIES OF BRITISH E&E PLAN FOR LOWER GULF STATES WITH BRITISH AT EARLY DATE. ONE THING THAT MIGHT USEFULLY BE SORTED OUT WOULD BE MATTER OF DESIGNATED SAFEHAVEN; AS NOTED ABU DHABI 1424, BRIT PLAN ENVISAGES EVAC TO BRITISH MIL BASE CYPRUS. FOR POL REASONS WE MIGHT PREFER AVOID HAVING LARGE NUMBER US CITIZENS TAKEN TO CYPRUS.

6. AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: I FULLY SUPPORT RECOMMENDATIONS PARA ABOVE. WE ARE INSTITUTING FURTHER TESTS GULF NET AND WILL ADVISE.
STOLTZFUS

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NNN

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